

# Milk-Carton City

## Description:

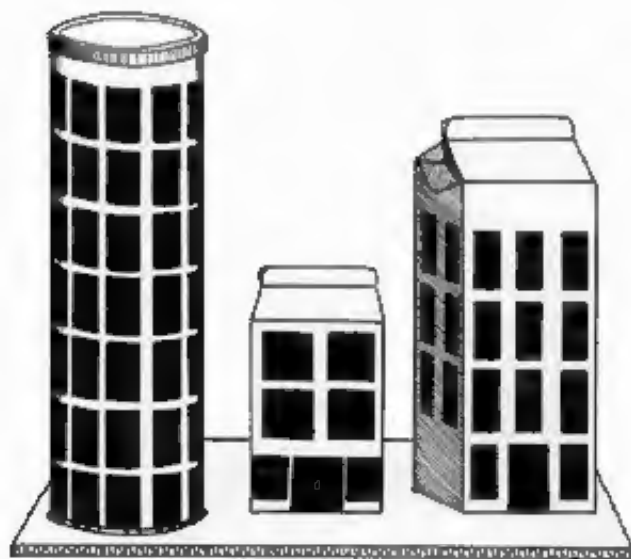
Children will create a three-dimensional cityscape with milk cartons and other product packages.

## Materials:

milk cartons of various sizes, potato chip cans, shoe boxes, cereal boxes and other product boxes; paint; paintbrushes; water and containers; safety scissors; construction paper; white glue  
Optional: corrugated cardboard

## Preparation:

Gather a large collection of boxes from cereal, milk, produce, etc. Potato chip cans make good grain silos or tunnels.



## Procedure:

Have your child arrange the boxes and cartons as if they were apartment and office buildings in a city block. Glue the boxes on a piece of corrugated cardboard so they can be hung on the wall or placed on the floor as a relief sculpture. When the glue is dry, your child can use paint and construction paper to make the milk cartons look like buildings. Acrylic paint will stick to the waxy cartons, and so will tempera or poster paint if a touch of glue is added. When the cityscape is complete, hang it on the wall.

## Artist Tie-in:

Look at a reproduction of Mondrian's *Broadway Boogie Woogie*, a painting that shows the bustle and excitement of a big city. You can find the painting at this Web address: [www.artchive.com/artchive/ftploc/mondrian\\_ext.html](http://www.artchive.com/artchive/ftploc/mondrian_ext.html).

## Just for Kids:

Many artists create relief sculptures, which are hung on the wall or placed on the floor. Relief sculptures have three-dimensional forms that stand out from a flat background. You are going to create a relief sculpture of a city with milk cartons and a few boxes. Cover the boxes with construction paper, paint windows and doors, and glue the boxes on cardboard. You can use round containers for grain silos or tunnels and stack boxes to make skyscrapers.

## Resource:

*Sky Scrape/City Scape* by Jane Yolen

